

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 5 through 11 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of co-pending Application No. 09/294,836 ~~filed April 19, 1999~~ entitled "~~Self-Organizing Distributed Appliances.~~" now U.S. Patent No. 6,345,294, granted February 5, 2002. This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/160,535 filed October 20, 1999 entitled "Automatic Network Address Assignment and Translation Inference" and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/178,063 filed January 24, 2000 entitled "Method and Apparatus for Automatic Network Address Assignment". The contents of the above applications are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 6 through 14 with the following amended paragraph:

As described in application number 09/294,836, ~~entitled "Self-organizing Distributed Appliances", filed April 19, 1999~~ now U.S. Patent 6,345,294, granted February 5, 2002, incorporated herein by reference, the appliance 110 seeks to establish an IP address on the ethernet 125 in the subnet 180. The appliance 110 has limited knowledge about its "world" when it is first connected to the ethernet 125. For example, the appliance 110 typically knows about the central appliance server 150. ~~(i.e., b~~ Before shipping to a customer, the appliance 110 is loaded with processing routines and limited network information[[:]] such as the CAS 150 address on the WAN 140, but it does not know about the computers 120 nor router 130 on the ethernet 125.